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CHRONICLE

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAN HIERARCHY

The third annual conference of the American Hierarchy took place at the Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C., during the third week of September. The sessions began on Tuesday, 20, and ended on Friday, 23. The following prelates attended:

WILLIAM CARDINAL O'CONNELL
DENNIS CARDINAL DOUGHERTY

Boston, Mass.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Archbishops

EDWARD J. HANNA
PATRICK J. HAYES
AUSTIN DOWLING
REGIS CANEVIN
JOHN W. SHAW
MICHAEL J. CURLEY
JOHN J. GLENNON
ALBERT T. DAEGER
GEORGE W. MUNDELEIN
HENRY MOELLER

San Francisco, Calif.
New York, N. Y.
St. Paul, Minn.
Pelusium.
New Orleans, La.
Elect of Baltimore, Md.
St. Louis, Mo.
Santa Fe, New Mex.
Chicago, Ill.
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Bishops

THOMAS J. SHAHAN
THOMAS F. LILLIS
OWEN B. CORRIGAN
JOHN WARD
JOSEPH F. BUSCH
MICHAEL J. GALLAGHER
JOHN GRIMES
THOMAS E. MOLLOY
JOHN P. CARROLL
JOHN EDWARD GUNN
JOHN B. MORRIS
JOHN J. CANTWELL
MICHAEL J. HOBAN
JAMES O'REILLY
JOSEPH P. LYNCH
THOMAS J. WALSH
CHRISTOPHER E. BYRNE
AUGUST J. SCHWERTNER
WILLIAM TURNER
EDMUND F. GIBBONS
JOHN G. MURRAY
JOHN J. NILAN
WILLIAM A. HICKEY
DENNIS J. O'CONNELL
A. J. SCHULER, S.J.

Germanicopolis
Kansas City, Mo.
Adm. Baltimore, Md.
Leavenworth, Kansas
St. Cloud, Minn.
Detroit, Mich.
Syracuse, N. Y.
Brooklyn, N. Y.
Helena, Mont.
Natchez, Miss.
Little Rock, Ark.
Monterey and Los Angeles, Calif.
Scranton, Pa.
Fargo, North Dakota
Dallas, Texas
Trenton, N. J.
Galveston, Texas
Wichita, Kansas
Buffalo, N. Y.
Albany, N. Y.
Aux. Hartford, Conn.
Hartford, Conn.
Providence, R. I.
Richmond, Va.
El Paso, Texas

LOUIS S. WALSH
 WILLIAM T. RUSSELL
 JOSEPH H. CONROY
 JAMES J. HARTLEY
 EDWARD D. KELLY
 JOHN J. MCCORT
 JOSEPH SCHREMBS
 HUGH C. BOYLE
 FRANCIS J. TIEF
 JOSEPH J. RICE
 PHILIP R. MCDEVITT
 EDWARD P. ALLEN
 JOHN J. MONAGHAN
 J. HENRY TIHEN
 PAUL P. RHODE
 FRANCIS J. TIEF
 DANIEL M. GORMAN
 THOMAS F. HICKEY
 JOSEPH CHARTRAND
 PETER J. MULDOON
 JOHN M. GANNON
 PATRICK KEANE
 THOMAS M. O'LEARY
 JOSEPH S. GLASS
 JOHN GRIMES

Portland, Me.
 Charleston, S. C.
 Adm. Ogdensburg, N. Y.
 Columbus, Ohio
 Grand Rapids, Mich.
 Altoona, Pa.
 Cleveland, Ohio
 Pittsburgh, Pa.
 Wichita, Kansas
 Burlington, Vt.
 Harrisburg, Pa.
 Mobile, Ala.
 Wilmington, Del.
 Denver, Colo.
 Green Bay, Wis.
 Concordia, Kan.
 Boise, Idaho
 Rochester, N. Y.
 Indianapolis, Ind.
 Rockford, Ill.
 Erie, Pa.
 Auxiliary, Sacramento, Calif.
 Springfield, Mass.
 Salt Lake
 Syracuse, N. Y.

His Eminence Cardinal O'Connell called the Conference to order and presided at its several sessions. At the initial session His Eminence paid a glowing tribute to the late Cardinal Archbishop of Baltimore, who had originated the Annual Conference of the American Hierarchy and presided over those held in 1919 and 1920. The regular program began with the reports of the Most Reverend and Right Reverend chairmen of the several departments of the National Catholic Welfare Council; and the Council's program for the ensuing year and the budgets with which to finance the various activities to be continued, or initiated, in the course of the next twelve months were unanimously adopted.

Most Rev. Edward J. Hanna, Archbishop of San Francisco, chairman of the Administrative Committee directing the activities of the Council, reported a number of definite and important accomplishments on the part of the organization since the Bishops' last meeting. This report showed that a letter on disarmament had been issued by the Administrative Committee in April; that the Catholic position on education had been made known to President Harding and that he had been informed of conditions in the Philippines; that the Council had been officially recognized and consulted by all departments of the Government on religious questions; that the Church's interests had been safeguarded in regulations governing the distribution of sacramental wines in the tariff bill, and in the immigration legislation; the Secretary of the Navy had given his approbation to Catholic work in Haiti after the subject had been brought to his attention

by the Council; the report also recounted the successful efforts that had been made in behalf of bringing foreign students to American colleges, and told of the official sanction obtained through the Council's interposition for the consecration of the graves of Catholic dead overseas; the organization of effective labor among immigrants both in this country and in the places of embarkation; the creation of an agency to assist Philippine students who come to this country for higher education; the issuance of a conservative program with respect to moving pictures and the resultful campaign against the circulation and exploitation of indecent films were other topics of the report.

Successful opposition had been exerted by the Council, Archbishop Hanna reported, to the repeal of the law forbidding the transmission through the mails of literature on birth control; the Smith-Towner bill, and the move to reduce the quota of Catholic chaplains in the army and the navy, and it had defended the Holy Father's letter on proselytizing in foreign countries; continued the work of gathering historical records of Catholic participation in the war, and issued the publication, "American Catholics in the War."

Among the proposals sanctioned was that for a Press Sunday and a Press Month. It was voted to make Sexagesima Sunday (February 19) Press Sunday, and February is to be Press Month. This suggestion was made in the report of Right Rev. W. T. Russell, chairman of the Department of Publicity, Press and Literature of the National Catholic Welfare Council.

The Bishops also gave their approbation to an octave of prayer for church unity. This octave will be January 18 to 25.

Sympathy with the Irish hierarchy and good wishes for the happy outcome of the conference between the representatives of Ireland and the English Government are expressed in a letter cabled to his Eminence Cardinal Logue, Primate of Ireland.

At the same session the Archbishops and Bishops adopted a strong resolution in favor of the limitation of armament and issued a formal statement urging upon the Catholic people of the United States the observance of Armistice Day (November 11) as a day of prayer for the success of the international conference called by President Harding to promote that cause.

Both the letter of sympathy to Cardinal Logue and the resolution in behalf of a general limitation of armament received the unanimous approval of the two Cardinals and the three score of Archbishops and Bishops attending the meeting.

The full text of the letter to Cardinal Logue is as follows:

His Eminence, Michael Cardinal Logue, Archbishop of Armagh,
Primate of Ireland.

Your Eminence:

In this solemn and portentous hour of Ireland's history, we, the Bishops of the United States gathered in annual conference, feel it a duty incumbent on us to extend to Your Eminence and your brethren of the Irish Hierarchy, the assurance of our sympathy, our

prayers and our united good wishes for the happy outcome of the conference in which the representatives of your people are now engaged.

Particularly at this time we are not unmindful of the tremendous debt the Church in this country owes to Ireland and its people. For more than a century the millions of your race have come to our shores and by their strong faith and their loyal and generous help, they have built up a Church which has become the pride of Christendom and the glory of the country in which we dwell. And even though they have become loyal Americans, faithful to the flag under which they dwell, time has never been able to extinguish in their souls the love they bore to the land of their fathers, to the little island from which they parted as exiles destined never to return.

And particularly during these recent years, with anxious and expectant hearts they have watched the trend of events, ever hopeful that Providence in its wisdom might ordain that at last Ireland was to take its place among the nations of the earth.

And indeed, during these latter weeks their hearts were filled with pride when they saw the representatives of their race conduct themselves with a statesmanship that has challenged the admiration of the world.

Therefore, in this fateful hour, when the future of Ireland trembles in the balance, it is not our desire, Your Eminence, by any word of ours to peril the outcome of those deliberations upon which a world waits with bated breath. Rather, in the true spirit of our Holy Faith, united with our people from every race and from every station, our prayers ascend from every altar in the land that God in His wisdom may bring Ireland's misery of seven hundred years to an end, that this most apostolic race among all of God's peoples may receive the reward for what they have done for the Church of America and elsewhere by obtaining the fulfillment of their national aspirations.

And finally, that God may grant you and your colleagues to live to see Ireland's golden age, and find your people even more faithful to their Church in the sunburst of their new freedom than ever they were in the years of their exile and expectancy.

Your Eminence's devoted servants in Christ,

THE ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS OF THE UNITED STATES.

On the subject of the movement to bring about an international agreement for the limitation of armament the Bishops issued the following statement on disarmament:

Following not merely dutifully, but with a full conviction of its supreme importance, the expressed desire of our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XV, that steps be taken to lift the crushing burden of heavy armaments from the overburdened shoulders of the peoples and nations of the world, and gratefully recalling the fact that the Father of Christendom first proclaimed the necessity of united action

to secure this end, we commend most heartily the spirit and the measures so far adopted by the President of the United States in summoning the representatives of the great nations to meet in Washington in November to discuss and carry into effect a limitation of armaments by all the nations, and we call upon the Catholic people of the United States to set apart Armistice Day, November 11, the day of the opening of the Conference, as a day of special prayer that God's blessing may rest upon the conference and that His Holy Spirit may guide its deliberations toward hastening that era of peace and good will for which the stricken peoples of the earth hope and pray and labor.

The officers of the Administrative Committee of the Welfare Council were unanimously re-elected. They are: Most Rev. Archbishop Hanna, chairman; Right Rev. P. J. Muldoon, vice-chairman; Most Rev. Austin Dowling, treasurer, and Rev. Dr. John F. Fenlon, S.S., secretary.

His Eminence Cardinal Dougherty resigned from the chairmanship of the Department of Laws and Legislation of the Council and from the Administrative Committee. Right Rev. Louis S. Walsh, Bishop of Portland, was elected to succeed Cardinal Dougherty as a member of the committee, and Right Rev. Edmund F. Gibbons of Albany, becomes chairman of the Department of Laws and Legislation. Bishop Gibbons was already a member of the Administrative Committee, but was not chairman of a department of the Council.

FIRST CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC MEN

The call for courageous Catholic leadership in all that makes for the best in national life will be voiced by representative Catholic laymen in all parts of the United States as a result of the inspiration furnished by men high in the councils of the nation and prelates of the church at the convention of the National Council of Catholic Men.

Forty church dignitaries listened to Senator David I. Walsh of Massachusetts sound that call in an eloquent address delivered to more than two thousand laymen who gathered at the great mass meeting in the Catholic University.

"The time has come," said Senator Walsh, "for the laity to take its own place in the work of service; in the work of giving; in the work of doing, here in the United States. It is a difficult undertaking; it is a tremendous responsibility. It is easily misunderstood; it is easily misrepresented, but no man ever accomplished anything in life without courage, and no cause ever succeeded that was led by a band of cowards.

"This movement must first of all have the unqualified, enthusiastic support of our spiritual leaders, our God-given guides, the hierarchy of the Church. It must be another army in their pioneer work in America for the promotion of principle."

The meeting, which voiced the sentiments of assembled delegates, reiterated at various phases of the convention held in the Willard Hotel,

also was addressed by Archbishop Edward J. Hanna of San Francisco, chairman of the Administrative Committee of the National Catholic Welfare Council; Bishop Joseph Schrembs of Cleveland, chairman of the Department of Lay Organizations, and Admiral William S. Benson, K.S.G.

Admiral Benson spoke on behalf of the Catholic laymen of the United States.

"If, a year hence," he declared, "it can be said that the Catholic manhood of this country is truly mobilized under the direction of the hierarchy, it will be unnecessary for us to assemble in small groups at any place in this broad land of ours to register our protests against actual or contemplated violation of our birthright and heritage."

Archbishop Hanna blamed the modern drift of education toward materialism as the fundamental cause for the present unrest.

"For more than a century," he said, "the princes of the earth, the great captains and scientists, have stood up against Christ and have proclaimed the mastery of science. Their dream was shattered by the war and men now looking for a return to sanity in the world turn to religion."

Senator Walsh was introduced by Bishop Schrembs, who declared that "it is gratifying tonight that we have with us one who has not feared to raise his voice in the Senate of the United States to declare that Ireland as well as other nations has the right to be free."

An impressive plea for toleration to all races and a call to American Catholics to support the approaching conference on the limitation of armament was made by the Senator from Massachusetts, who recalled that Pope Benedict was the first great international leader to call for the limitation of armament, if not disarmament, as a measure whereby universal peace could be secured.

He attacked the idea that a citizen can not be a good American without a knowledge of the language, declaring that "A man who can not speak a word of English can serve the American flag and die for it as well as the best English scholar in the country."

A cordial reception was given to the delegates to the convention at the Executive Mansion by President Harding. The delegates were introduced to the President by Admiral William S. Benson, and each was greeted with a hearty handclasp as the head of the nation smiled and expressed his cordial greetings.

The most enthusiastic demonstration of the entire convention at the Willard Hotel greeted the announcement of the election of Admiral William S. Benson as president of the National Council of Catholic Men. Delegates cheered and clapped for several minutes after the new president was escorted to the chair.

"We have a Hindenburg line to break," said Admiral Benson in accepting the office, "and we can not do it unless we have the united and wholehearted support of the Catholic men and women of the country. With this honor goes a tremendous responsibility; if it were not for my interest and belief that this movement will succeed and become one of the greatest movements ever inaugurated, I would not have accepted this post. We must muster our armies and it is up to you men to localize your forces.

If that is done I will lead you through Belleau Wood and break the Hindenburg line."

Thomas F. Flynn of Chicago was elected national vice-president; Judge P. J. M. Hally of Detroit, national secretary; Charles I. Denechaud of New Orleans, national treasurer, and Michael J. Slattery, LL.D., national executive secretary.

The members of the executive committee elected were as follows:

Admiral William S. Benson, Washington; John D. Ryan, New York; Richmond Dean, Chicago; W. P. Horan, Denver; Walter I. Johnson, Cincinnati, O.; Judge James E. Deery, Indianapolis; Edward J. Tobin, San Francisco; Joseph M. Tally, Providence; C. A. Beeby, Hays, Kansas; F. P. Kenkel, St. Louis; Charles I. Denechaud, New Orleans; Thomas F. Flynn, Chicago; Michael J. Hurley, St. Paul, and Francis J. Sullivan, Brooklyn.

One of the most important problems discussed at the convention was that concerning the immigration problem.

A plea for the support of the Men's Council in carrying out the work of caring for the Mexicans who cross the border into the United States and who are subject to a vigorous campaign of proselytizing by Protestant denominations was made by A. W. Norcrop, the delegate of the El Paso diocese. As a result an appropriation of \$25,000 for the work among the Mexicans was announced to be carried out under the auspices of the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Council.

Resolutions were adopted affirming the allegiance of the convention to the principles of Christian education, opposing State or Federal control of education, supporting the aims of the forthcoming disarmament conference, denouncing the divorce evil, urging relief for the unemployment and the adoption of measures that will relieve the unemployment situation, urging the formation of social study clubs, requesting cooperation of units in the compilation of Catholic war records, endorsing the establishment of a National Training School for Men, approving of the National Catholic Welfare Council's program for cleaner motion pictures, and expressing the hope that "in a final settlement between our Government and the Government of Mexico the civil and religious rights of Catholics will be conserved."

A resolution was also adopted expressing the hope that "the leaders of the Irish people may bring out of the diplomatic interchange now taking place the form of government acceptable to the Irish people as a nation, and permit of their immediate return to prosperity and the attainment of growth and proper national position before the world."

The resolution on the disarmament conference, which was one most vigorously debated in committee, contained a clause declaring that "we are of the opinion that the United States, while leading in the purpose of limitation of armament, should see to it that all times sufficient means of protection be maintained to meet any purpose on the part of any government on earth to intimidate, or to neutralize the position of our government in the protection of its interests."

Messages pledging the loyalty of the delegates to the Holy Father, and pledging the delegates to support the President of the United States and

"work with him in his desire to see the country thrive and be honored by the peoples of the world" were sent by the convention.

A review of the work of the Catholic Laymen's Association of Georgia was given by the Very Rev. Joseph D. Mitchell, Vicar-General of the Diocese of Savannah. The Rev. Daniel J. Daly, who has just returned from France as representative of the National Catholic Welfare Council explained the "Boy Scout Movement in France."

During the sessions the delegates were addressed by the Most Rev. Edward J. Hanna, the Right Rev. P. J. Muldoon, the Right Rev. Joseph F. Busch, and the Right Rev. Daniel M. Gorman.

CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES

More than 3,000 delegates, priests, nuns, and laity registered for the Convention of the National Conference of Catholic Charities which held its sessions in Milwaukee during the last week of September. The delegates represented all parts of the United States and Canada, and there were also some delegates from Mexico.

The conference opened Sunday forenoon with a Pontifical High Mass at the Cathedral, celebrated by Bishop Paul Rhode of Green Bay, Wis. Bishop John T. McNicholas of Duluth preached the sermon. Bishop McNicholas gave a survey of charity from the days of paganism to the present time. "Charity today is the same as in former days," he said, "but today the methods are different." Continuing Bishop McNicholas said:

The church in her charity goes out to everyone. She knows neither race, nor creed, nor color in observing the command to love one's neighbor. You may not enter into a conference which claims the right to reject the fact of three persons in God and the fact of Christ's Divinity, but you can and should be a brother to him who makes these denials in bringing to him relief and in alleviating his suffering. You can have conferences with all who will discuss every welfare problem without disturbing the religious beliefs or interfering with the spiritual care of our people.

We Catholics have a duty in forming public opinion on every question of interest to the community at large. We are exceptionally well qualified to bring to conferences, to legislative halls, to administrative work, principles of Christian charity not only sound in theory but tested in practice for centuries. There is surely great need of crystallizing public Catholic opinion on charity. Those familiar with state controlled charities realize their limitations and defects. The state can be assured of our unfailing good will and of our earnest desire to co-operate. We as Catholics have the same claim for our poor and dependent classes as any other citizens of the city, state or nation. As it is in the interest of the state to encourage private charities we can reasonably hope for that encouragement which our members' service and loyalty deserve. We approach public charity only as citizens.

Our good will and co-operation and willingness for co-ordination must never be interpreted as delegating to any other private charity or even

the public charity of the state the care and direction of the spiritual interests of those for whom we are responsible before God.

Every parish should realize its obligation of giving a certain portion of its total revenue for the year to charity. One-fourth of all parish revenue in the early church was set aside for charity.

We must take all that philanthropists, social and charitable workers have to offer. Whatever is of advantage either in theory or practice we should link up with the charity of Christ.

The convention was in session five days and the addresses made and reports read covered a wide range of subjects related to charity.

Many exhibits of the handiwork of Catholic institutions—orphphanages, blind and deaf homes and harbors for crippled children—were shown at the convention.

The Right Rev. Thomas J. Shahan, rector of the Catholic University, was re-elected National President of the conference.

The other officers elected included Mrs. Nicholas Brady, New York; J. A. McMurray, Boston; Mrs. Mary Young Moore, Los Angeles and Mrs. F. J. Lewis, Chicago, vice-presidents; Rev. John O'Grady, Washington, secretary; Mrs. Frank Crowe, Chicago, assistant secretary; Judge William H. De Lacey, Washington, treasurer. The executive committee elected includes: Right Rev. Thomas J. Shahan, Washington; Rev. William J. Kirby, Washington; Robert Briggs, Baltimore; Victor Ridder, New York; Mrs. R. P. O'Brien, Minneapolis; Rev. Moses Kiley, Chicago; William L. Igoe, St. Louis; James Murphy, Detroit; Very Rev. Francis O'Hara, Brooklyn; Miss Katherin Williams, Milwaukee; Rev. Michael Scanlan, Boston; Rev. F. T. Wastl, Philadelphia; Sister Eugenia, St. Louis; Rev. Frank Gessel, Cincinnati; Colonel P. H. Callahan, Louisville.